GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:718
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2002
IMPLEMENTATION OF YASHPAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of recommendations made by Yashpal Committee regarding carrying of heavy bags by school going children; and

(b) the time by which the recommendations of the Committee are likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a): The Report of the National Advisory Committeechaired by Prof. Yash Pal to advise on improving the quality of learning while reducing the burden of school students was received by the Government. The main recommendations of the Committee include −

(i) To restrict the jurisdiction of CBSE to Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas and to affiliate all other schools with the respective State Boards,

(ii) To treat the textbooks as school property obviating the need for the students to purchase them and therefore carry them daily to homes.

(iii) To prepare a separate time-table for the assignment of homework and for the use of textbooks and notebooks. Details of such timetable to be made known to children in advance

(iv) In primary classes no homework be given to children, except for extension of explorations in the home environment. In the upper primary and secondary classes, homework, where necessary, should be non-textual and textbooks, when needed for work at home, should be made available on a rotation basis.

(v) Review of public examinations at classes X and XII with a view to ensure replacement of the prevailing text-based and "quiz type" questioning by the concept-based questioning.

(b): The subject "Education" is in the Concurrent List and measureshaving bearing on education are implemented by States/UTs administrations in their schools. Taking measures to improve the quality of learning with a view to lessening the burden on school students is a continuing process. The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) (2000) brought out by NCERT gives emphasis for education on Curriculum load. Based on the NCFSE,the syllabi have been developed and the Text books are being brought out in phased manner.